

## Accepted Manuscript

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PII: S0304-8853(17)33142-6

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jmmm.2018.04.052>

Reference: MAGMA 63898

To appear in: *Journal of Magnetism and Magnetic Materials*

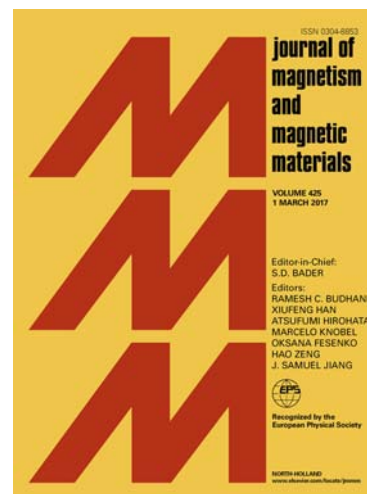
Received Date: 5 October 2017

Revised Date: 21 April 2018

Accepted Date: 23 April 2018

Please cite this article as: Bibhuti.B. Dash, S. Ravi, Magnetization Reversal and Exchange Bias Study in Bulk  $Gd_{1-x}Y_xCrO_3$  ( $x = 0.0 - 1.0$ ), *Journal of Magnetism and Magnetic Materials* (2018), doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jmmm.2018.04.052>

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**Magnetization Reversal and Exchange Bias Study in Bulk  $Gd_{1-x}Y_xCrO_3$  ( $x = 0.0 - 1.0$ )**

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*Department of Physics, Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, Guwahati-781039, India.***Abstract**

Single phase samples of  $Gd_{1-x}Y_xCrO_3$  ( $x = 0.0 - 1.0$ ) were prepared by sol-gel method. Lattice parameters obtained from the Rietveld refinement are found to decrease from  $a = 5.3129 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $b = 5.5210 \text{ \AA}$ , and  $c = 7.6040 \text{ \AA}$  for  $x = 0$  to  $a = 5.2428 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $b = 5.5208 \text{ \AA}$  and  $c = 7.5340 \text{ \AA}$  for  $x = 1.0$ . The temperature variation of magnetization measurements show that all samples exhibit antiferromagnetic transitions and the Neel temperature ( $T_N$ ) decreases from  $T_N = 174 \text{ K}$  for  $x = 0.0$  to  $142 \text{ K}$  for  $x = 1.0$ . Interesting magnetization reversal behavior is observed as the temperature is lowered from  $T_N$  under field cooled condition and the magnetic compensation temperature,  $T_{comp}$  is found to decrease from  $136 \text{ K}$  for  $x = 0$  to  $42 \text{ K}$  for  $x = 0.70$ . These samples exhibit tunable positive and negative exchange bias fields with a maximum negative value of  $-1.17 \text{ kOe}$  for  $x = 0.50$ . The origin of magnetization reversal and exchange bias field is explained by considering the competition between the paramagnetic moment of  $Gd^{3+}$  ions under the influence of negative internal field and the weak ferromagnetic component of  $Cr^{3+}$  ions due to canted antiferromagnetic ordering.

*Keywords:* Orthochromites; Weak ferromagnetism; Magnetization reversal; Tunable exchange bias.

**I. Introduction**

The study of exchange bias has drawn a great deal of interest due to its potential technological applications in magnetic recording devices, spin valves, spintronic devices and in magnetic random access memory devices [1–7]. The Exchange Bias (EB) in a system is manifested as a shift in the center of the isothermal magnetic hysteresis loop towards either positive or negative field axis. Such shifting towards positive and negative field axes is known as positive exchange bias (PEB) and negative exchange bias (NEB) respectively. This behavior is mainly observed in various heterostructured system having bilayer and multilayer of ferromagnet (FM)/antiferromagnet (AFM), FM/ferrimagnet (FIM), etc. [1,7–10]. The EB arises as a result of

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